expenditure of which the Grant is composed. The Demand made by Mr. Statham has therefore to be put to the vote of the House. The motion for omission of the grant should be ignored.

Chairman : I suppose the House allows the motion for the omission of the grant to be withdrawn.

Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai : Sir, I wish to have a ruling on the point raised by me.

Chairman : I am not going to give any ruling on that now.

The motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

Chairman : I now put Demand I—Education for Rs. 46,04,579 to your vote.

The grant was made.

Chairman : As regards the point raised by Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai a considered ruling will be given later.

DEMAND II—PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Mr. G. B. E. Truscott : Sir, I move for a grant not exceeding Rs. 36,01,726 under Demand II—Public Works.

Mr. K. P. Nilakanta Pillai : Sir, I oppose the motion.

Chairman : Mr. John Kattakayam who has sent in a motion for the omission of the demand, will speak first.

Mr. K. P. Nilakanta Pillai : Sir, unless the point of order is decided, the members will be placed in a difficult situation and they will not know how to proceed.

Chairman : Provisionally I give this ruling, that those who have sent in motions will have precedence over others and as soon as a demand is brought before the House the person whose name is printed on the motion sheet as one who has given notice of a motion to omit the demand will have precedence. Mr. John Kattakayam will therefore speak now.

Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai : I rise to a point of order whether it is necessary for a member to give notice of a motion for the omission of any demand.

Chairman : I do not invite a criticism on the ruling of the Chair. I have already said that a considered ruling will be given later.

Mr. J. John Kattakayam : സർ, ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെന്റിലെ മരണവൈകല്യങ്ങളെ ചീഫ് എൻജിനീയരുടെ ശ്രദ്ധയിൽ കൊണ്ടുവരണമെന്നുള്ളതാണ് ഞാൻ ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപംകൊണ്ട് ഉദ്ദേശിക്കുന്നത്.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

ഈ തുറയിൽ അത്യാവശ്യത്തിൽകവിഞ്ഞ ഉദ്യോഗങ്ങൾ ഉണ്ട്. പണം വേണ്ടവിധത്തിൽ വിനിയോഗിക്കാതെ ന്യായരഹിതമായി കരസ്ഥമാക്കാൻ ഈ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിലെ കീഴ് സിൽബന്ധികൾക്ക് ധാരാളം മാർഗ്ഗങ്ങൾ തുറന്നുകിടക്കുന്നു. ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിൽനിന്നും നടത്താറുള്ള ജോലികൾ പ്രായേണ കൺട്രാക്ടറുകൊടുത്താണ് നടത്താറുള്ളത്. അങ്ങിനെയിരിക്കെ ഈ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിൽ ഇത്ര അധികം ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാർ എന്തിനാണെന്ന് മനസ്സിലാകുന്നില്ല. ഇതിനാൽ ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരെ കുറയ്ക്കുതന്നെവേണം. ഉടമ്പടികൊടുത്തു കൺട്രാക്ടറന്മാരെ കൊണ്ട് ചെയ്യിക്കുന്ന ജോലികളുടെ ന്യൂനത തീരണമെങ്കിൽ ചീഫ് എൻജിനീയരുടെതാഴെയുള്ള ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരെഎല്ലാം തൃപ്തിപ്പെടുത്തണം. ചെയ്യുന്ന ജോലി തൃപ്തികരമായി ചെയ്തില്ലെങ്കിലും ക്ലിപ്തകാലത്തിനകം തീർന്നില്ലെങ്കിലും കീഴ് സിൽബന്ധികളെ പ്രസാദിപ്പിച്ചാൽ എല്ലാം നേരെയായി.

ഞാൻ പ്രതിനിധീകരിക്കുന്ന താലൂക്കുകളിൽ ഒന്നായ തൊടുപുഴ താലൂക്കിൽ ഏകദേശം പത്തുകൊല്ലമായി ഒരു റോഡുണ്ടാക്കീട്ട്. ആ റോഡിൽ സിംഹഭാഗവും ഇതുവരെ മെയിൻറനൻസ്സു ചെയ്യുക പതിവില്ലായിരുന്നു. കഴിഞ്ഞപ്രാവശ്യം ഈ സംഗതിയെപ്പറ്റി ഞാൻ ചീഫ് എൻജിനീയർക്ക് എഴുതിഅയച്ചതോടുകൂടി റോഡു നന്നാക്കി അദ്ദേഹം അവിടെവന്ന് കണ്ടതിനുശേഷം ആ റോഡിൽകൂടിയുള്ള ഗതാഗതം സുഗമമായിതീരുകയും ചെയ്തിട്ടുണ്ട്. ഇതിനുമുൻപുണ്ടായിരുന്ന ചീഫ് എൻജിനീയരന്മാർ ആരുംതന്നെ ആ സ്ഥലം കണ്ടിട്ടില്ല. നമ്മുടെ ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ ചീഫ് എൻജിനീയർ സമർത്ഥനും സത്യസന്ധനും തൻറെ ജോലികളിൽ പാടവവും താല്പര്യവും ഉള്ള ആളുമാണ്. അതുകൊണ്ടു മാത്രം എന്താണ് ഫലം? പുതിയതായി റോഡുകൾ ഉണ്ടാക്കാനും മറ്റുമായി ഈ പ്രാവശ്യം ൪൯,൦൦൦ രൂപായാണ് അദ്ദേഹത്തിന് അനുവദിച്ചുകൊടുത്തിട്ടുള്ളത്. അതിൽ ൫൦,൦൦൦ രൂപായും രാജധാനിയിലേക്കുവേണ്ട മാററിവച്ചിരിക്കുന്നു. അതുകൊണ്ട് ഞാനൊരു കാര്യം പറയാം. വെറുതേ ചീഫ് എൻജിനീയരെ എന്തിനാണ് യാത്രചെയ്യിച്ചു ബുദ്ധിമുട്ടിക്കുന്നത്. അദ്ദേഹത്തിനുള്ള സഞ്ചാരപ്പടിക്കുടിക്കൊടുത്തു ഗവണ്മെൻറ് നഷ്ടമാകുകയുംവേണ്ടാ. രാജധാനിയിലെ നല്ല റോഡ് കുത്തിപ്പൊളിച്ച് ഒരു മെയിൻറനസ്സ് ചെയ്യുന്നതിന് അൻപതിനായിരം രൂപാ ചിലവുവരുന്നു. നാല്പത്തൊൻപതിനായിരത്തിൻറെ കൂടെ ഒരായിരം രൂപാകൂടി ഈ പ്രാവശ്യം രാജധാനിയിലേ റോഡിനുവേണ്ടി ഉപയോഗിച്ചുകൊള്ളട്ടെ. ഇങ്ങിനെ രാജധാനിയിൽ ഒരു

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

മയിൽ റോഡിന്റെ മെയിന്റനൻസ്സുകൊണ്ടു് ഞങ്ങൾക്കെല്ലാം ഇ മാതിരി സഭകൾക്കുംമറും ഇവിടെ വരുമ്പോൾ രാജധാനിയിലെ പ്ര സ്തരോഡിൽക്കൂടി സുഖമായി നടക്കുകയുംചെയ്യാം. അപ്പോൾ എല്ലാ താല്യക്കുകാക്കും ഉപയോഗമുണ്ടു് എന്ന ഒരു പേരിന് കാരണമായും കരു താം.

സാമ്പത്തികാധഃപതനം വർദ്ധിച്ചിരുന്നിട്ടും കൂലിയുടെ നിരക്കു് പ ഴയകാലത്തേപോലെതന്നെ ഇപ്പോഴും നിലനിന്നുപോരുന്നുണ്ടു്. ഇതും അത്ഭുതാവഹമെന്നേ വിചാരിക്കാനുള്ളു.

ഒരു പണിക്കുവേണ്ടി അനുവദിക്കുന്ന തുകയിൽ പകുതിയും കൺ ട്രാക്ടറന്മാർ തട്ടിക്കൊണ്ടുപോകുന്നു. അതിൽ ഒരുപങ്കു് ഡിപ്പാർട്ട മെൻറു് സിൽബന്ധികൾക്കും ലഭിച്ചുവരുന്നു. സിൽബന്ധികൾ കുറ ഞ്ഞിരുന്നാൽ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടമെൻറു് കോഴകൊടുക്കുന്നതിൽ ഒരുഭാഗംകൂടി ജോലിക്കാർക്കുപയോഗപ്പെടുത്താമായിരുന്നു.

തിരുവിതാംകൂറിലെ സ്ഥലങ്ങളേപ്പറ്റി നോക്കുന്നപക്ഷം ദക്ഷി ണതിരുവിതാംകൂറിൽ ഗതാഗതസൌകര്യം ധാരാളമുണ്ടു്. മദ്ധ്യതിരുവി താംകൂർ കുറവായും ഉത്തരതിരുവിതാംകൂർ അതിലും കഷ്ടമായിട്ടുമാണി രിക്കുന്നതു്. ചുരുക്കിപ്പറഞ്ഞാൽ ഉത്തരതിരുവിതാംകൂറിൽ ഗതാഗതം വളരെ കുറച്ചുമാത്രമേയുള്ളു.

Mr. K. Madhavan Pillai : റോഡുവേലക്കാരുടെ കൂലി ക്രമം എങ്ങിനെയാണു്?

Mr. J. John Kattakayam : ഇപ്പോൾ കൂലിക്രമം വള രെ കുറഞ്ഞിട്ടുണ്ടു്.

പരിഷ്കൃതരാജ്യങ്ങളിൽ സാമ്പത്തികാധഃപതനം വരുമ്പോൾ റോഡുകൾ നന്നാക്കുക, പാലങ്ങൾ നന്നാക്കുക, റെയിൽവെ നന്നാക്കുക മുതലായ ഗതാഗതസൌകര്യങ്ങൾ വർദ്ധിപ്പിച്ചു് ജനങ്ങളുടെ തൊഴി ലില്ലായ്മയെ പരിഹരിക്കാൻ പ്രവർത്തിക്കുന്നുണ്ടു്. ഇവിടെ നേരെ വി പരീതമായിട്ടാണു കാണുന്നതു്.

ഒരുസ്ഥലത്തു് ഒരു റോഡുണ്ടാക്കാൻ ആദ്യം സ്ഥലത്തു ലയിൻ അടിക്കുവാൻ അയക്കുന്നതു് ഏറ്റവും താണ ഒരുതരം ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥനെ യാണു്. അയാൾ അവിടെ ചെന്നുകഴിഞ്ഞാൽ ഉടനേ ധാരാളം ഫല വൃക്ഷങ്ങളുള്ള ഒരു പുരയിടം നോക്കി അതിന്റെ മദ്ധ്യത്തുകൂടി കുറി അടിച്ചുതുടങ്ങും. എന്തിനു് ഒടുവിൽ വല്ലതുംഒന്നു കരസ്ഥമാക്കിയശേഷം ആ പുരയിടത്തിൽനിന്നും മറുപുരയിടങ്ങളിലേക്കു കുറിയുമായിപോകും. പ്രതിഫലം കിട്ടുന്നതിനു പലപ്പോഴും റോഡു വളഞ്ഞും പുളഞ്ഞും പോ കുന്നതിനു് ഇടയാകുന്നു. ഇതാണു് ഇന്നു കാണുന്ന പഴയ റോഡിനു്

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Mr. J. John Kattakayam.]

പറയിയ നാശം എന്ന തീർത്തു പറവാൻകഴിയും. മേലാൽ അങ്ങിനെ ഉള്ളവരെ ഈ കായ്ത്തിന് ഒരിക്കലും നിയമിക്കരുത്. അതിലേയ്ക്ക് ഉയന്ന ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരെ തന്നെ നിയമിക്കേണ്ടതാണ്. ഈ സംസ്ഥാനത്തു ധാരാളംറോഡുകളുണ്ട്. മിക്കവാറും റോഡുകൾം മോട്ടോറിൽ സഞ്ചരിക്കുന്നവക്കും യാത്രക്കാക്കും ഉപദ്രവം നേരിടുന്നതിനുള്ള കാരണങ്ങളാലും മറും വളഞ്ഞാണ് കിടക്കുന്നത്. റോഡിന് ചില സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ വളരെ വീതികാണും. ഇതു പ്രായേണ വളവുകളിലാണ് കാണുന്നത്. ഇങ്ങനെ വളവുള്ള റോഡുകളിൽ റോഡ് മുതിരപ്പുറംപോലെ കിടക്കുന്നതിനാൽ സയിഡ്എടുത്തു പോകാൻ നിവൃത്തിയില്ല. സയിഡ്എടുത്തു പോകുന്നപക്ഷം വാഹനങ്ങളുടെ വേഗതകൊണ്ട് ചരിഞ്ഞും മറിഞ്ഞും പോകുമെന്ന് ഭയപ്പെടുന്നു. ഇതിനെ പരിഹരിക്കുന്നതിന് വളവുകളിലെല്ലാം കാംബർ സ്ഥാപിക്കണം. ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ നിലയിൽ കിടക്കുന്നപക്ഷം വളരെ ആപത്തുകൾം ഉണ്ടാകാൻ മാർഗ്ഗമുണ്ട്. ഇതിനുംപുറമെ വളരെസ്ഥലം വളവുകളിൽ നിരുപയോഗയോഗ്യമായിക്കിടക്കുന്നു. ഈവക സംഗതികം അഛിരേണ നടപ്പിൽ വരുത്തിയാൽക്കൊള്ളാമെന്ന് എനിയ്ക്ക് അഭിപ്രായമുണ്ട്.

Chairman : Your time is up.

Mr. K. P. Nilakanta Pillai : Sir, I second the motion. While seconding the motion, I have to place before the House the fact that an enormous and unnecessary expenditure is incurred on account of this department. Even though it may not be proper to blame the Chief Engineer alone for this loss of revenue on account of the Public Works Department, he and the others who are responsible for the close watching of the expenditure of the department are equally blamable. Now that the Public Works Department is under discussion the Chief Engineer, I am sorry, will have to take the whole blame. At a time when Travancore was spending more than Rs. 36 lakhs under this department, Rs. 15 lakhs was spent on buildings, communications and original works and we were having a staff consisting of a Chief Engineer and six or seven Executive Engineers. In the coming year's budget the whole allotment under Public Works is Rs. 32 lakhs odd, and out of it, Rs. 98,000 alone is earmarked for original works. Therefore, the rest of the amount, excluding the amount to be spent on capital works, is to be utilised for looking after the ordinary maintenance of the existing roads, repairs and other things. I ask the question, Sir, on what ground these

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

establishments could be justified to spend Rs. 98,000? The House will remember that out of the Rs. 62 lakhs spent for the Public Works Department the capital works are being supervised directly by different officers. The Electrical Department is supervised by the Electrical Engineer. For the Minor Irrigation Works there is a separate Assistant Engineer. The Water Works Department is supervised by another Engineer. Therefore the Chief Engineer and the Executive Engineers have only to supervise the original works and such a sum as Rs. 98,000 can never be justified for this staff and their establishment. One ought to be ashamed, Sir, to say that for executing works of Rs. 98,000 one Chief Engineer, the Executive Engineers and a lot of Supervisors and others are necessary.

Secondly, Sir, the history of the Public Works Department will show that it is groping in the dark. There is no definite policy. What they propose to do today is left incomplete tomorrow They have no idea whatsoever. By simply looking at the exigencies they prepare estimates, they sanction estimates and then estimates sanctioned are set at naught. I do not know what idea the department has about the work and what is the benefit of the amount spent by the department.

Sir, the next question to which I want to draw the attention of the House is the wastage of money in the department. I know what the department has been doing for the last 10 years. I know that my statement will be received with as much authority as the statement of the Chief Engineer in this respect. I have travelled throughout Travancore and I know that several original works which have been begun are left unfinished. Bridges started are left uncompleted. New roads opened, a section completed and the rest left uncompleted. Therefore the enormous amount of money spent in the opening of these new roads is a waste because they are not completed and are allowed to be washed away by rains and other natural causes. Therefore the whole money spent on these things is but a mere waste. Who is responsible for these things, who is supervising the working of this department and controlling its expenditure? To speak about my own constituency I know that there are half a dozen roads started in 1106, money spent on them, left uncompleted and they are allowed to be washed away. This is the state of things that we find, if we look into the history of wastages. Where is the Financial Secretary? What is the control that he is exercising? Does the administrative head of the Travancore Government exercise control over the several departments? Are the responsible officers not aware of these? What is the use of sanctioning new works this year when the works already started last year have not been completed? Nothing has been done to

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Mr. K. P. Nilakanta Pillai.]

safeguard unnecessary expenditure on account of new roads. This is the kind of wastage that is going on when the country is passing through acute economic depression. I ask the question what is the use of providing this Rs. 98,000 when nobody is going to take care about the way in which it is spent? In the history of the P. W. Department the Financial Secretary says Rs. 62 odd lakhs for the next year is the largest allotment that is made for any year. What a wonderful thing. When we come to close quarters we find that Rs. 98,000 is going to be spent by the officers of the department in 1110. What is done towards the nation building activities of the State? Ridiculous, to speak the least about it. I can understand any State possessing responsible Government would have taken more serious action about these things. But nobody takes interest to know the way in which these funds are spent and whether there is any check in these matters. What is the Financial Department doing? Have they called for any reports as to how money was spent, what amount was spent, etc.? Is there anybody to look into these things?

Mr. S. Piraviperumal Pillai: Are even the roads for which members have clamoured in their constituencies at least opened?

Mr. K. P. Nilakanta Pillai: I am not speaking of new roads. I want only roads to be completed which are already left unfinished. Government should at least take care that the money already spent for new roads is not wasted. I ask the question, is it not the bounden duty of the Government and the Chief Engineer, if not the duty of anybody else, to look into this most important question?

Chairman: You have only two minutes more.

Mr. K. P. Nilakanta Pillai: In the Government order passed on the working of the P. W. Department for the year 1108 all sorts of encomiums were paid as the floods were very terrible and the whole energy and the resources of the department were put to the test and Government thought it even fit to congratulate the department on the work turned out by it. My friend Mr. John Kattakayam was pointing out that all money is being spent in the capital. Within two furlongs distance of this Town Hall there is a certain place called Thekkumudu and a bridge has collapsed there. An amount of only Rs. 2,000 is required for the purpose. I want to draw the attention of the Chief Engineer to the ridiculous way in which the road is looked after. When the bridge collapsed there was not even a danger light kept there. A car fell down into that *thodu* and a number of cyclists had the same experience. I

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

know personal instances. Thanks that the Law of Tort is not as much developed here. Otherwise some people would have thought of filing a suit for damages and a decent amount recovered as compensation for the injured persons due to the negligence of the department. That is the way in which the whole resources and energy of the department were directed during the time of the floods. I do concede that some useful work was done by the department in the Chalai Bazaar. The whole energy and the resources of the department were brought to bear on the banks of the Killiyar. I know the work done by the Chief Engineer and the P. W. Department. It was the then Dewan that took more interest in this matter than anybody connected with the P. W. Department. Probably that may be the reason why the whole resources of the department were at its back. In this case it happened to be the Dewan. If it is high personalities there will be water pipes, electric lights and all the rest of it. Apart from the question of bad water there are places where we have no water at all. Rs. 2 lakhs is provided for extension of water supply in Trivandrum. Pipes are put up not from the view points of the question of necessity. But it is something considered by the department as a matter of obligation. Whom should it oblige and by obliging who is benefited? That is the only thing. In conclusion I say that in view of the small amounts provided for the next year such a costly staff is not necessary for the department.

Mr. N. K. Padmanabha Pillai : സർ, ഇറിഗേഷനും പൊതുമരാമത്തിനും നീക്കിവച്ചിട്ടുള്ള തുക വളരെകുറവാണ്. ഇറിഗേഷൻഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിന്റെ എസ്റ്റാബ്ളിഷ്മെൻറ് ചിലവ് കൂട്ടിയിട്ടുണ്ടെങ്കിലും ചെയ്തിട്ടുള്ള ജോലിയുടെ തോതിന് മാറ്റമൊന്നുമില്ല.

ഇറിഗേഷൻകമ്മിറ്റിയുടെ ശുപാർശ അനുസരിച്ചു ൪,൦൦,൦൦൦ രൂപായെങ്കിലും പ്രൊട്ടക്ടീവ് ഇറിഗേഷനു നീക്കിവെയ്ക്കേണ്ടതാണെന്നു പറഞ്ഞിട്ടുണ്ട്. അക്കാര്യം ഞാൻ ഗവൺമെൻറിനെ ഓർമ്മപ്പെടുത്തിക്കൊള്ളുന്നു.

പിന്നീടു പറയാനുള്ളതു ഇറിഗേഷൻവകുപ്പിലേക്കു എക്സിക്യൂട്ടീവ് എൻജിനീയരേയും സബ്ഡിവിഷൻആഫീസരേയും പുതിയതായി ഉണ്ടാക്കീട്ടുണ്ട്. എങ്കിലും അവരുടെ രണ്ടുപേരുടേയും ആഫീസ്സ് കൊല്ലത്താണ് വച്ചിരിക്കുന്നതു് എന്നുള്ളതാണ്. എന്നാൽ മൈനർ ഇറിഗേഷൻ ക്യൂതലുള്ളതു് തിരുവനന്തപുരത്തും നെടുമങ്ങാട്ടും നെയ്യാറുകരയുമാണ്. ഈ നാട്ടുകാർക്കു എന്തെങ്കിലും ഒരു അവരെഅറിയിക്കേണ്ട

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

തായിവന്നാൽ കൊല്ലത്തുപോകേണ്ടതായിട്ടിരിക്കുന്നു. ഇവർ വല്ലപ്പോഴും ഒരിക്കൽമാത്രമെ പ്രസ്തുതസ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ സർക്യൂട്ട് വരുന്നുള്ളൂ. അതുകൊണ്ടു ഒരു സബ് ഡിവിഷൻ ആഫീസെങ്കിലും നെയ്യാറിൻകരയൊ, തലസ്ഥാനനഗരിയിലൊ മാറ്റിസ്ഥാപിക്കേണ്ടതാണു്. ഇതിനുമുമ്പു് നെയ്യാറിൻകരെ ഒരു സബ് ഡിവിഷൻആഫീസ് ഉണ്ടായിരുന്നു അതു ഏതോകാരണവശാൽ അവിടുന്നു മാറ്റുകയാണു് ഉണ്ടായിട്ടുള്ളതു്. നെയ്യാറിൻകര ധാരാളംഇറിഗേഷൻ ജോലികൾഉള്ളതുകൊണ്ടു സബ് ഡിവിഷൻആഫീസെങ്കിലും നെയ്യാറിൻകരയ്ക്കു മാറ്റിത്തരണം.

Mr. Komilezhathu Sankaran: നെയ്യാറിൻകരതാലൂക്കിൽ എത്രമൈൽ റോഡുണ്ടു്?

Mr. N. K. Padmanabha Pillai: അതിനു ഉത്തരം പറയാൻ ഇപ്പോൾ സമയമില്ല.

ഉൾനാടുകളിൽ റോഡുകൾ, പാലങ്ങൾ, മുതലായവ ഉണ്ടാക്കണമെന്നു ജനങ്ങൾ മുറവിളികൂട്ടുന്നുഎങ്കിലും അതിനൊന്നും പണം ബഡ്ജറ്റിൽ അനുവദിച്ചിട്ടില്ല. നാട്ടിൻപുറങ്ങളിലുള്ള ജനങ്ങൾക്കു അവരുടെ ഉൽപന്നങ്ങൾ ചന്തസ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽകൊണ്ടുചെന്നു വിൽക്കുന്നതിനു റോഡ് ഇല്ലാതെ സാധിക്കുന്നതല്ല. അതുകൊണ്ടു ഉൾനാടുകളിൽ റോഡുകൾ ഉണ്ടാക്കുന്നകാര്യത്തിൽ ഗവണ്മെൻറു പ്രത്യേകം ശ്രദ്ധിക്കണം.

പഴയകൌൺസിലിലും അസംബിളിയിലും മെമ്പറന്മാർ പലതവണയും ആവശ്യപ്പെട്ടതനുസരിച്ചു് എൻറതാലൂക്കിലുള്ള അമരവിളറെറയ്ഞ്ചേരമംഗലംറോഡിൽ ഏതാനുംപണിനടത്തിപൂർത്തിയാക്കാതെ ഒരു കലുങ്ക് മാത്രം ചെയ്തിരിക്കുന്നു. അതിനു ഈപ്രാവശ്യവും പണംഅനുവദിച്ചിട്ടില്ല. ഒന്നരണ്ടുകലുങ്കുംപാലവും ആവശ്യമുണ്ടു്, അതിനെപ്പറ്റി ആലോചിക്കാതിരിക്കുന്നതു ഒരിക്കലുംശരിയല്ല.

പൂവാർ എന്നസ്ഥലത്തു ഒരുപാലംകെട്ടുന്നതിനെ സംബന്ധിച്ചു് ഞങ്ങൾ പലതവണയും അസംബിളിയിലും, കൌൺസിലിലും വാദിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടു്. അന്നത്തെദിവാനും പ്രസിഡൻറുമായിരുന്ന മി വാട്ട്സ് അതു വളരെ മുഖ്യമായ ഒരുജോലിആണെന്നുകണ്ടു ഉടനെ എസ്റ്റിമേറു തയാർചെയ്യണമെന്നു ഈ ഹാളിൽവച്ചുതന്നെ ഏർപ്പാടുചെയ്തു. പിന്നീടുവന്ന ദിവാൻജിയോ, ചീഫ് എൻജിനീയരോ അതിനെസംബന്ധിച്ചു ആലോചിച്ചിട്ടില്ല. ഗവണ്മെൻറുചെയ്യേണ്ടതു ഏതെങ്കിലും ഒരുപണിചെയ്യാൻ തുടങ്ങിയാൽ അതു പൂർത്തിആക്കാൻ വേണ്ടപണം നീക്കിവച്ചു ജോലിചെയ്യിക്കയാണു്. അപ്രകാരം ചെയ്യാതിരിക്കുന്നതു് കഷ്ടമാണു്.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

അടുത്തതായിഎനിക്കു പറയാനുള്ളത് ഈ ഡിപ്പാർട്ട്മെൻറിലെ ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരെസംബന്ധിച്ചാണ്. അനേകംഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാർ ഈ ഡിപ്പാർട്ട്മെൻറിൽ ഉണ്ട്. എന്നാൽ അതിനുതക്കവണ്ണമുള്ള ജോലി നടക്കുന്നേഇല്ല മുമ്പിലത്തേതിനേക്കാളും ഇപ്പോൾ ജോലികുറവാണ്. ഡിപ്പാർട്ട്മെൻറിൽനിന്നും നടത്താനുള്ള ജോലി കൺട്രാക്ട് കൊടുത്തു നടത്താനുള്ളതേ ഉള്ളൂ. ഓരോ ഡിപ്പാർട്ട്മെൻറിലെ ൫ ൦ ൦ - രൂപാ വരെയുള്ള ജോലികൾ ആ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിൽനിന്നും അതിൽ കൂടുതലുള്ളത് P. W. D. യിൽനിന്നും നടത്തണമെന്നാണ് വെയ്പ്. അതുകൊണ്ടു ഇപ്പോൾചെയ്യുവരുന്നതു ൫ ൦ ൦ രൂപായിൽ അല്പംകുറഞ്ഞതുകകൊണ്ട് ചെയ്യേണ്ടജോലികളും എസ്റ്റിമേറു തയാറാക്കുമ്പോൾ ന്യ ൦ ൦ രൂപായായി വരുന്നുണ്ട്. ഉദാഹരണമായി നെയ്യാറിൻകര മുൻസിപ്പാലിറ്റിക്കു ഒരുകിണർകുഴിപ്പിക്കണമെന്നു ആലോചിച്ചു അതിനെപ്പറ്റി എഴുതിഅയച്ചു. ചീഫ്എൻജിനീയർമുഖേന സെക്ഷൻആഫീസർ ആവശ്യപ്പെട്ടതനുസരിച്ചു എസ്റ്റിമേറു തയ്യാറാക്കി. അഞ്ഞൂറുരൂപായിൽ കൂടിയിരിക്കണമെന്നു നിശ്ചയിച്ചു് എസ്റ്റിമേറു ന്യ ൫ ൦ രൂപായ്ക്കു് തയ്യാറാക്കിഅയച്ചു. അതിൽ ഒന്നുപകുതി ചിലവു് മുനിസിപ്പാലിറ്റിയും ഒന്നുപകുതി ഗവർമ്മെൻറും ചിലവാക്കണമെന്നു എഴുതിഅയച്ചു. ഇതിനുമറുപടി ആയി മുനിസിപ്പാലിറ്റിക്കു തുകകൊടുക്കാൻ നിവർത്തിയില്ലെന്നും മുഴുവൻതുകയും ഗവൺമെൻറുതന്നെ ചിലവാക്കണമെന്നും എഴുതിഅയച്ചു. ന്യ ൫ ൦ രൂപാകൊണ്ടു് ചെയ്യുതീക്കാമെന്നു നിശ്ചയിച്ചജോലി ൪ ൦ ൦ രൂപാക്കു തീർന്നു. ഇതുപോലെ പലപ്പോഴും കൂടുതൽതുകയ്ക്കു് എസ്റ്റിമേറുതയ്യാറാക്കി അയച്ചുവരുന്നുണ്ട്.

Mr. M. Govindan: ൫ ൦ ൦ രൂപായിൽ കൂടിയജോലികളും P. W. D. യിൽനിന്നു ചെയ്യേണ്ടാ അതാതു ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിൽനിന്നുതന്നെ ചെയ്യണമെന്നു മെമ്പർക്കു അഭിപ്രായമുണ്ടോ?

Mr. N. K. Padmanabha Pillai: അങ്ങിനെ ഇനിക്കു അഭിപ്രായമില്ല.

Mr. M. Govindan: അതു നല്ലതല്ലെ.?

Mr. N. K. Padmanabha Pillai: അല്ല.

Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai: Sir, I rise to oppose the demand made by the Chief Engineer. The Public Works Department is one of those departments which is meant to minister to public convenience.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. Kayalam Paramesvaran Pillai: Sir, I rise to a point of order. The member is opposing the Demand. There is already a motion before the House which is in the nature of an amendment motion and that should be got disposed of before we can take up the question of opposing the Demand. The motion moved by Mr. John Kattakayam is a motion as provided for by the Standing Orders. But the motion just now made by Mr. Paramesvaran Pillai does not conform to the provisions of the Standing Orders which require 2 days' clear notice. Again the motion, which is in the nature of an amendment motion, moved by Mr. Kattakayam should be got disposed of first.

Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai: Sir, I wish to know whether the Law Member is in order?

Chairman: Order, please.

Mr. Kayalam Paramesvaran Pillai: So that when it is in the nature of an amendment motion, it should be got disposed of before the admission of the motion now before the House.

Chairman: Is Mr. Paramesvaran Pillai opposing the Demand made by the Chief Engineer or opposing the motion made by Mr. John Kattakayam?

Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai: That is why I pressed for a ruling from the Chair a little while ago. But the Chair said that a considered ruling will be given later. But in my view.....

Chairman: It will be seen from Standing Order 59 that the Standing Orders contemplate a motion to omit a demand being moved. Although the motion is for *total* omission and, as such, it may be taken substantially to be the same as an opposition to the demand, yet the motion to omit the demand is admissible as a motion. It is in the nature of an *amendment* to the principal motion of demand moved by Government. And, therefore, such omission motions must be got disposed of, before the mere opposition to the demand is allowed to be spoken on. It may be that the difference between a support to the omission motion on the one hand and the opposition to the Demand on the other is rather technical and perhaps shadowy. But still, the difference has to be kept up in the nature of the Standing Orders governing the conduct of business in this House. Therefore the motion of Mr. Kattakayam to omit the demand is in order; and that motion has precedence before the mere opposition to the demand is taken up.

Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai: Then, I submit to the ruling and support.....

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. Kayalam Paramesvaran Pillai: Sir, I rise to a point of order. There are two motions, one made by the Chief Engineer and the other made by Mr. John Kattakayam. Mr. Paramesvaran Pillai opposes the motion of the Chief Engineer, while the motion made by Mr. Kattakayam remains undisposed of by the House.

Chairman: In opposing the motion of the Chief Engineer, the member may only be supporting the motion of Mr. Kattakayam. Mr. Paramesvaran Pillai may continue.

Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai: In view of the ruling from the Chair, I am going to support the motion made by Mr. John Kattakayam.

Sir, the Public Works Department is one of those departments which is meant to minister to public convenience and comforts, and that certainly accounts for the large provision being made every year in the budget under this head. But this department has, of late, come up for much adverse criticism from the public. Instead of continuing to be more productive of good to the public, this department has proved to be a mere white elephant which consumes, next to the Education Department, the biggest share of the State revenue. In no other department of Government is there so much wastage or even leakage of public money. All around we notice not only inordinate delay in the execution of works but also inefficiency and incompetency. From top to bottom—from the Chief Engineer down to the Supervisors —we have a pretty large army of high paid officers sufficient even to stem the onset of a mountain torrent. Why should we have so many high paid officers in this department? Most of these officers have absolutely very little work to do, except to ease in their arm chairs and sign their salary bills or pass the contractors' bills. As to their engineering skill the less said the better. Whenever the State wants to undertake such important works as the construction of the bridge across the Neendakara bar or at Neriamangalam or to investigate and report on the causes of sand accretion in the Alleppey Port or wants to start such beneficent schemes as the Pallivasal Hydro Electric Scheme, it has to indent upon the services of experts from outside.

Mr. G. B. E. Truscott: Sir, I rise to a point of order. An expert .. ...

Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai: The member is not in order in putting the question. He is not in his seat. (*Laughter.*)

Mr. G. B. E. Truscott: I merely wish to say, Sir, that it was said that experts are being got down in connection with the Pallivasal Hydro Electric Scheme for advice. I have been an expert, Sir.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai: Then again, to work out the Trivandrum Town-Planning or Drainage Schemes or even to plant some avenue trees on either side of the road leading to the Kowdiyar Palace or for similar other purposes, our Government have to look up for Engineering skill elsewhere than in our own State. Sir, is it not, after all, disgraceful that our State should spend large amounts for getting down experts from outside even for installing the generating sets in the engine rooms of the Power House at Trivandrum, especially when the State is maintaining from its revenue an Electrical Department with a high paid Electrical Chief Engineer, helped by a number of equally high paid Assistants?

Mr. G. B. E. Truscott: I rise to a point of order, Sir. We are discussing about the Public Works Department proper and not the Electrical Department budget. Whether the member is in order in speaking on electrical matters.

Chairman: Mr. Paramesvaran Pillai, please confine yourself to the P. W. D. proper.

Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai: Why then, I ask, are our Government maintaining such big establishments? In these days of improved means of communication between the different parts of the State, I do not think there is any necessity to have so many P. W. Divisions placed under so many big officers. Under the present conditions there is practically no difficulty for the P. W. Officers to exercise jurisdiction over wider areas. Further almost all the big and important works are now being executed through foreign contractors and experts, either through Messrs. Braithewaite & Co, or Messrs. Harrisons & Crosfield.

Mr. G. B. E. Truscott: Sir, I rise to a point of order. Can the member tell me what Messrs. Braithewaite were doing?

Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai: The member should refer to them.

Mr. G. B. E. Truscott: What construction have they been doing?

Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai: Sir, I will refer the member to page 12 of the Financial Secretary's Budget Speech. I think the hon'ble member can question me further after I have finished my speech.

Without sacrificing efficiency it may, therefore, be possible for Government to divide the whole State into a fewer number of divisions, say for instance, into two or three, and thus try to liberate more money for public works of utility. The establishment charges of this department have very often been the subject

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

of severe criticism and the Retrenchment Committee has recommended substantial cuts and reductions with a view to curtail the enormous expenditure now incurred on establishment. As it is, we find that for spending Rs. 5 or 6 on public works the department has to spend now more than a rupee on establishment.

The delays in the department have become more proverbial than even the Laws' delays. I do not think it necessary for me to recapitulate here all the works that are now pending completion. There are ever so many small roads, bridges and culverts still under construction stage, although such works were sanctioned and undertaken years ago. May I ask the Chief Engineer how many years it is since the bridge across the Kayancolam canal is under construction; how many Chief Engineers have come and gone and in how many budgets the necessary funds were provided for? Then again, what about that big culvert on the Jagathi road and the Mamom *palam*, which were washed away in the floods of 1108? Both these are on two important roads connecting the traffic between Nagercoil and Quilon with the capital. All these remain as standing disgraces to the Public Works Department.

In this connection it does not appear to me to be necessary to inform this House how many miles of roads in this State have not seen gravel or have not felt for years together the influence of a spade, pick-axe, roller or some such instrument or machine. Most of my friends here, who come from the mofussil, will be able to bear full testimony to my statement. Even in this capital city we are surprised to find several roads which have not seen gravel for very many years and along which people have to wade through slush and mud in winter and dust in summer. It is nothing but inefficiency and incompetency that we notice everywhere in this department. It is usually contended by the Chief Engineers that for want of sufficient funds several works had to be put off every year. That, I believe, is one of the stock arguments which the present Chief Engineer, like his predecessors, is likely to repeat. In reply to this I have only to ask the Chief Engineer whether his department is spending all the amounts that are sanctioned by us every year for public works? Is not his department making big surrenders every year from the budget allotments? Are all the works sanctioned in the budget every year being faithfully carried out by his department? Notwithstanding repeated complaints we find that this department is not at all doing its duties which it owes to the public. How can we then pass this demand? Unless this department is prepared to make amends for its past sins and assure this House that this state of affairs shall not continue any longer we will be forced to refuse our assent to this demand for grants. Then again, Sir,.....

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Chairman : Your time is up, Mr. Parameswaran Pillai.

Mr. A. N. Visvanatha Pillai : സർ, സമുദ്രതീരങ്ങളിൽ താമസിക്കുന്ന ആളുകൾക്ക് ശുദ്ധജലം കുടിക്കാൻ ഇല്ലാത്തതുകൊണ്ട് അവർ വളരെ ബുദ്ധിമുട്ടുന്നു. അതിനെ സംബന്ധിച്ചു കഴിഞ്ഞ ബഡ്ജറ്റ് സമ്മേളനത്തിൽ ഈ കാര്യം ഗവൺമെൻറിന്റെ ദൃഷ്ടിയിൽകൊണ്ടുവരികയും, പബ്ലിക്ക്വർക്സ് ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറ് അതിനെ അംഗീകരിക്കയും ചെയ്തിട്ടുണ്ട്. അതിനുശേഷം ഈ സംഗതിയിൽ എന്താണ് കഴിഞ്ഞകൊല്ലം ഗവർമ്മേൻറ് പ്രവർത്തിച്ചതെന്നു ഞാൻ ചോദിക്കുന്നു? ശ്വസിക്കുന്ന വായുകഴിഞ്ഞാൽ കുടിക്കുന്ന വെള്ളമാണ് ജനങ്ങൾക്ക് ഏറ്റവും അത്യാവശ്യം. അതിനുവേണ്ടിയെങ്കിലും ന്യായമായി പണം ചിലവുചെയ്യുന്നില്ലെങ്കിൽ ഈ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറ് എന്തിനായി സ്ഥിതിചെയ്യുന്നുവെന്നു ഞാൻ ഏറ്റവും വിനയമായി ചോദിച്ചുകൊള്ളട്ടെ? ഞാൻ പ്രതിനിധീകരിക്കുന്ന കരുനാഗപ്പള്ളി താലൂക്കിൽ സമുദ്രതീരത്തിൽ നിവസിക്കുന്ന ജനങ്ങൾക്ക് ശുദ്ധജലം കുടിക്കാൻ നിവർത്തിയില്ല എന്നു പലപ്രാവശ്യം ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറ് മേധാവിയേയും ഗവർമ്മേൻറിനേയും അറിയിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ട്. ഇതുവരേയും അതിനു യാതൊരു നിവാരണവും ഉണ്ടായിട്ടില്ല.

ഇനിയും എനിക്കു ഈ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറ് മേലദ്ധ്യക്ഷന്റെ ശ്രദ്ധയിൽകൊണ്ടു വരാനുള്ളത് കൊല്ലംതോറും തുടങ്ങുകയും പണി പൂർത്തിയാക്കാതെ മുടങ്ങുകയും ചെയ്യുന്ന റോഡുകളെപറ്റിയാണ്. കൊല്ലത്തും കരുനാഗപ്പള്ളിയിലും ഓരോ റോഡുകൾ പണി ആരംഭിച്ചിട്ട് മുടക്കിയിട്ടിരിക്കുന്നു. ഇപ്രകാരം നിരുപയോഗമായി പബ്ലിക്കുഫണ്ട് വിനിയോഗിക്കുന്നതു നിരുത്തരവാദിത്വപരവും തീരെ ആക്ഷേപാർഹവുമാണ്. ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിൽനിന്നും ഇപ്പോൾ ശ്രദ്ധിച്ചുവരുന്നതു പ്രധാന റോഡുകൾ രക്ഷിപ്പാനല്ലാതെ ബ്രാഞ്ചുറോഡുകൾ പുതിയതായി നിർമ്മിക്കുവാനോ ഉള്ളവ നന്നാക്കുവാനോ അല്ല. ഗ്രാമീണർക്ക് അത്യാവശ്യമായിട്ടുള്ളതു ബ്രാഞ്ചുറോഡുകളാണ്. പട്ടണങ്ങളിൽ താമസിക്കുന്നവർക്കു മാത്രം സൗകര്യങ്ങൾ ചെയ്തുകൊടുക്കുന്നതല്ല ഈ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിന്റെ ജോലി. ഗ്രാമീണരുടെ സൗകര്യങ്ങളുംകൂടി നോക്കേണ്ടതാണ്. അതുകൊണ്ട് ബ്രാഞ്ചുറോഡുകൾ നന്നാക്കുന്ന കാര്യത്തിൽ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറ് കൂടുതൽ ശ്രദ്ധപതിപ്പിക്കണം. കൊല്ലത്തും കരുനാഗപ്പള്ളിയിലും ഈ തവണ പബ്ലിക്ക്വർക്സിനു വേണ്ടിടത്തോളം തുക അനുവദിച്ചു കാണുന്നില്ല.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

കൊല്ലത്താണെങ്കിൽ ഫ വ, ഠ ഠ ഠ-ശ ാ (Aviation) വിമാനസങ്കേതആ വശ്യത്തിലേക്ക് അനുവദിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ട്. അതു കണ്ടാൽ അവിടെ എല്ലാവ രും ഇനി വായുമാർഗ്ഗം സഞ്ചരിക്കണമെന്നാണോ ഗവർമ്മെൻറിന്റെ അ ഭിമതമെന്നു തോന്നിപ്പോകും. ഇപ്രകാരം പണം ഈ ആവശ്യത്തിനു ചിലവാക്കുന്നതിനുപകരം തിരുവിതാംകൂറിൽ എത്ര പേർക്കാണ് വിമാന മുള്ളതെന്ന് ഞാൻ ചോദിക്കുന്നു.

Mr. Komilezhathu Sankaran: കരുനാഗപ്പള്ളിയിൽ ആ കെയുള്ള നാ ഠ മൈൽ റോഡിന്റെ മെയിൻറനൻസ്സു വകക്കെങ്കിലും വല്ല തുക അനുവദിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടോ?

Mr. A. N. Visvanatha Pillai: അതിലേക്കു യാതൊരു തുകയും അനുവദിച്ചിട്ടില്ല.

Mr. Komilezhathu Sankaran: കൃഷ്ണപുരം-കറിതെരുവു ബ്രാഞ്ചുറോഡിനു വല്ല തുകയും അനുവദിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടോ?.

Mr . A. N. Visvanatha Pillai: അതുമാത്രമല്ല മെയിൻറനൻസ്സിനു പണം അനുവദിക്കാത്ത പല റോഡുകളും കിടപ്പുണ്ട്. അതിനേപ്പറ്റി ഗവർമ്മെൻറു ശ്രദ്ധിക്കുന്നില്ല. ഈ സംഗതി കഴിഞ്ഞ തവണയും ഞാൻ പ്രത്യക്ഷമാക്കീട്ടുണ്ട്.

ഇനിയും ഒന്നുപറയാനുള്ളതു് പ്രതിവർഷം ഗവർമ്മെൻറു ഓരോ പണികൾക്കായി അനുവദിക്കുന്നതുക, ആ പണികൾ നടത്താതെ ലാപ്സാക്കുന്ന നയം ഏറ്റവും ആക്ഷേപകരമാണെന്നുള്ളതാണു്. ഇപ്രകാരം ഉള്ളപ്രവൃത്തികൾ ഈ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറു ചെയ്യുന്നതുതീരെ ക്ഷന്തവ്യമല്ല. ഈ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറു ഒരലങ്കാരത്തിനായി വച്ചിരിക്കുകയാണെങ്കിൽ ആ വിവരം നേരത്തേ ജനങ്ങളെ അറിയിക്കണം. അതല്ല, ഉപയോഗത്തിനാണെങ്കിൽ ശരിയായവിധം ജനക്ഷേമകരമായ പ്രവൃത്തികൾ ചെയ്യേണ്ടതാണാവശ്യമെന്നു് ഞാൻ ഗവർമ്മെൻറിനെ അറിയിച്ചുകൊള്ളട്ടെ?

Mr. S. Piraviperumal Pillai: Sir, if there is one department in the State which has to justify the huge sum that is allotted for it, it is the Public Works Department. This department is not doing the work in the manner it ought to. Roads are not being maintained properly. Their condition is very miserable. Take for example the road to South Travancore (Main Southern Road from Aramboly to Trivandrum). The tolls collected from this road are enormous but the amount spent on it is very meagre. I do not know whether the Chief Engineer has travelled through this road,

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Mr. S Piraviperumal Pillai.]

Motor vehicles which pay a very huge amount as tolls and other fees often have their axles broken. That will speak about the condition of the road. Then, Sir, coming to buildings, the supervision by the P. W. D. is not adequate. In a very short period after the completion they collapse. For instance, I can mention the building which was constructed for the use of the patients of the Oolampara hospital which collapsed very soon it was completed and the patients who were lying in the hospital had to suffer severe injuries. And I may say in this connection, that the Chief Engineer is unwilling to give any information about the collapse of this building and interpellations sent to Government are not answered. I wonder why.

Sir, with regard to another point, there is a standing complaint that the department is not paying any attention to the requests of the members of the representative institutions *re* the opening of roads in places which stand in urgent need. They say that they have no funds. But when the year closes we find that the funds allotted for this department lapse. Under these circumstances I am of opinion that this department has to be scrutinised properly.

Mr. K. Sankaralingom Pillai (*Kottarakara* and *Pattanapuram* cum *Shencotta*): Sir, I have also along with my friends to complain about this department on certain matters. During the Budget session, last year, I referred to a matter of urgent local need, namely the provision of a water-supply scheme for the town of Shencotta. Since then the Government issued a Press Communique and they mentioned a number of places for which they propose to make water-supply schemes. So far as the town of Shencotta is concerned the Press Communique made it clear that investigations will be made and funds will be provided for, in this year's budget itself. However, when I looked into the budget I found that no funds have been provided for. Sir, this must be due either to the indifference of the Government in such matters or at least their slowness. The necessity for this scheme arises not merely because of the difficulty of getting good water but because of the danger to public health that exists as a result of the prevalence of cholera during many years in the neighbouring places of the town and the consequent infection of water sources in the town itself. Sir, the municipal estimate for the whole work does not come to more than a lakh of rupees. The Financial Secretary boasts of very sound finance and good reserves, and this should not be difficult, particularly when Government could find surplus money to spend, by lakhs, simply for widening roads in the capital, and tens of thousands, for the investigation of drainage schemes for it. I hope, Sir, that if Government have any sympathies in the matter they would translate them into action.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. M. N. Narayana Menon: സർ, എൻജിനീയർഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിൽ ഓരോ വർഷവും പുതിയ വേലകൾക്കായി അനുവദിക്കുന്ന തുക വളരെ കുറവായിട്ടാണു കണ്ടുവരുന്നതു്. എന്നാൽ ആ അനുവദിക്കുന്ന തുകകൂടിപോലും ശരിയായി ചിലവാക്കുന്നില്ലെങ്കിൽ ഇത്ര വലിയ ഒരു ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറു വച്ചുപുലർത്തുന്നതിന്റെ ആവശ്യം എന്താണെന്നു മനസ്സിലാകുന്നില്ല. ഓരോകൊല്ലവും ബഡ്ജറിൽ നോക്കുന്നതായാൽ ഓരോ പണികൾക്കായി ധാരാളം തുക അനുവദിച്ചിട്ടുള്ളതായി കാണാം. എന്നാൽ ബഡ്ജറ് റിവയിസ് ചെയ്യുന്നകാലത്തു് ആ തുക കുറഞ്ഞുകുറഞ്ഞുവന്നു ഒടുവിൽ ലാപ്സായിപോകുന്നു.

ഉദാഹരണമായി ഞാൻ പ്രതിനിധീകരിക്കുന്ന കോട്ടയം താലൂക്കിലെ കുമരകംറോഡ് നന്നാക്കുന്നതിനായി ഫ്ര ഠ ൻ-ലെ ബഡ്ജറിൽ ൪ ൦ ൦ ൦ രൂപാ കൊള്ളിച്ചിരുന്നു. ബഡ്ജറ് റിവയിസ് ചെയ്തപ്പോൾ ൮ ൦ ൦ ൦ രൂപാ ആക്കി കുറച്ചു. ആ ൮ ൦ ൦ ൦ രൂപായിൽനിന്നു ഫ ൦ ൦ ൦ രൂപാപോലും ഈ വർഷം ചിലവുചെയ്യുമെന്നു എനിക്കു തോന്നുന്നില്ല. റോഡുകൾക്കുവേണ്ടി അനുവദിക്കുന്ന മുഴുങ്ങിയ തുകതന്നേയും ചിലവാക്കാതിരിക്കുന്നുഎങ്കിൽ ഈ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറു് എന്തിനാണു പുലത്തിക്കൊണ്ടുപോകുന്നതു്. ഇതു വളരെ കഷ്ടംതന്നെയാണ്. ഓരോ വേലകൾക്കും എസ്റ്റിമേറു തയ്യാറാക്കി പണം അനുവദിച്ചശേഷം ആ വക പണികളെ മാറിവയ്ക്കുകയാണു ചെയ്യുന്നതു്. കോട്ടയം വി. എം. ഗറൽസ്കൂളുതന്നെ ഇതിനു് ഉദാഹരണമാണു്. അതു കൊട്ടാരത്തിനടുത്താണ്. മഹാരാജാവുതിരുമനസ്സുതന്നെ അതു കണ്ടിരിക്കും. പ്രസ്തുതസ്കൂളിനു ഒരു പുതിയകെട്ടിടം പണിയണമെന്നു ആവശ്യപ്പെട്ടു തുടങ്ങീട്ടു കൊല്ലങ്ങൾ വളരെയായി. കെട്ടിടം പണിനടക്കുന്നതുവരെ സ്കൂൾവേറെ ഏതെങ്കിലും ഒരു കെട്ടിടത്തിലേക്കു മാറി ഇടണമെന്നു പറഞ്ഞിട്ടും കേൾക്കാൻ ആളില്ല.

ഇനിയും ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിനു അകത്തു നോക്കുന്നതായാലും പലകുഴപ്പങ്ങളും ഉണ്ടു്. ൻവ-നുശേഷം ഉണ്ടായിട്ടുള്ള ചില നിയമനങ്ങളിൽ ചിലരെ സ്ഥിരപ്പെടുത്താതിരിക്കുക, ചിലരെ സ്ഥിരപ്പെടുത്തുക ഇങ്ങനെപലതും നടക്കുന്നുണ്ടു്. എൻജിനീയർഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിലെ മേസ്തിരിമാരാണു പ്രധാനമായി ജോലിചെയ്യിക്കുന്നവർ. അവരെ സ്ഥിരപ്പെടുത്താതെ ഏപ്പോഴെങ്കിലും പിരിച്ചുവിടാമെന്നുള്ളനിലയിൽ വച്ചിരിക്കുന്നു. അതുകൊണ്ടു അവർ ഒന്നുംതന്നെ കായ്മുമായി കരുതുന്നില്ല. അതുകൊണ്ടു ഈ

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Mr. M. N. Narayana Menon.]

സംഗതിയും പ്രത്യേകം ശ്രദ്ധിക്കണമെന്നു ഓർമ്മിപ്പിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു. ഇങ്ങനെ അനേകം സംഗതികൾ ചെയ്യേണ്ടതായിട്ടുണ്ട്. വാസ്തവത്തിൽപുതിയതായി വേലകൾ ചെയ്യാൻ പണം അനുവദിക്കാതിരിക്കുമ്പോൾ ഉള്ള പണം അത്യാവശ്യമുള്ളിടങ്ങളിൽ ചെയ്യാൻ ഓരോ ജോലികൾചെയ്തീർത്തില്ലെങ്കിൽ ഇത്രവലിയ ഒരു ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറുകൊണ്ടും ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരെക്കൊണ്ടും നമുക്ക് എന്താണു പ്രയോജനം? യാതൊരു കാരണവശാലും അനുവദിക്കുന്ന പണം ലാപ്സാകാൻ ഇടയാക്കരുത്.

Mr. K. Rama Varma Raja (*Edavagai*): Sir, several members have spoken about the inefficiency of the department in meeting the demands of the people in the different parts of the State. Year by year more money is being spent for the establishment and less for the works. In the year 1108 the expenditure on establishment was Rs. 3,53,000. In the year 1109 it is expected to be Rs. 3,75,000. But an establishment costing Rs. 4,80,000 is to be maintained to do the work of Rs. 22,43,000 during the year 1110. In the year 1109 an establishment costing Rs. 3,75,000 could do works for Rs. 27,16,000. If the Government is prepared to meet an additional expenditure for the establishment of any department, the Government should also be prepared to give them more work. It is not encouraging to see that the Financial Secretary has been able to show a surplus amount in the budget. When from the different parts of the State people are clamouring for the necessities, I say for drinking water, for the means of going from one place to another to work and to gain a livelihood, the Financial Secretary should be in a position to meet those demands and not keep a reserve amount in the Treasury. By following the present policy of the Government in the matter of public works they may not be able to meet the demands of the people. They should follow a definite policy and prepare a scheme which will enable them to meet the demands of the people. I say the Government should ascertain the most necessary works that are to be carried out in the State in the near future, for which the people are clamouring, and find out how much money they require in all. It may be a crore or a crore and a half of rupees. Then the Government should make a plan by which these works which are highly necessary and which are to be executed in the near future to be met from a separate fund, to which that portion which the Government can spare in each year may be added; and until and unless the whole works that have been started under the scheme are completed no pie out of it should be allowed to lapse. Say for 10 years the Government may be able to allot some 2 crores of rupees,

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

i. e. 20 lakhs per year; or for new works the Government may be able to allot 10 lakhs per year. In 10 years the Government will be able to allot a crore of rupees. An estimate should be prepared and a scheme according to that should be prepared at present which will cover an amount of a crore of rupees; and that work the Government should undertake to execute within these 10 years. If this policy is adopted by the Government at least for 10 years the loud clamouring from the different parts of the State will not be so much as it is now, after years. Now the works that have been undertaken before new work are begun are left incomplete and at times a certain amount is allowed to lapse. Such a contingency will not result in case a definite scheme is followed by the Government.

Chairman: Your time is up.

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar: Sir, the policy of the Government so far as this department is concerned is not quite sound. Whenever there is a cry from any quarter for any particular thing, just to pacify that demand something is sanctioned and work taken up which is never completed. This is bad policy. There are several instances of such incomplete works in the constituency to which I belong. The Ankamali-Parur Road *via* Manjali was sanctioned in 1928. The Velampoor-Veettoor Road was sanctioned in 1929. The Chitrapuzha road was sanctioned in 1926. These roads are still incomplete. There are other roads also left incomplete such as the Parur-Kuriapalli Road, Perumpavoor-Edapally, Road *etc.* The Parur-Kuriapalli Road, Munambam East coast Road, Perumpavoor-Koovapadi Road and Manjapra-Kallar Road are also in a very bad condition. In the Parur-Kuriapalli Road and Munambam East Coast road there will be water during high tides even in summer season, not to speak of floods which do visit the northern taluks every year. The above said 4 roads are being daily used by a lot of school going children. In the present condition it is unsafe for children to walk along these roads. The necessity for a bridge in the Periyar river at the Alwaye-Parur ferry crossing place was brought to the notice of the Government years ago by repeated representations and, I understand, sanction has been accorded for the putting up of that bridge. With the opening of the Union College, and the rise in the commercial importance of the Alwaye town and Railway Station, the necessity for the above said bridge has become very keen. That bridge if put up will be the connecting link between Travancore and Cochin. It is regrettable to find that no provision has been made for the putting up of that bridge and for removing the defects in the above said roads. Again that there is scarcity of water for drinking purposes in Perumpavoor town cannot be disputed.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar.]

A well was sunk there at Government expense and unfortunately we find there is no water in the well from Kumbham to Medam. That defect is not cured as yet. For removing the scarcity of water for bathing purposes representations were made at repeated sessions of the Assembly from 1095 onwards. No action has been taken. As for the deepening and widening of the Palakattu-Thazham canal about which representations were often made, no difinite action has been taken. In this connection I should like to bring to the notice of this House that I had addressed a petition to the present Chief Engineer's predecessor complaining of the grievances of the public in the matter of some of these roads early in this year. I regret to submit that the Chief Engineer had not the courtesy to acknowledge even the receipt of my petition, not to speak of redressing the grievances contained therein. I personally visited the Chief Engineer and represented the grievances ; that also had no effect. I should like to have a decisive ruling whether members on this side of the House are competent to represent to heads of departments the local grievances or defects, if any, existing and whether the heads of departments are bound to take any action on those matters.

In the Alwaye Sub-Division Office we have an Executive Engineer, an Assistant Engineer, a Sub-Engineer, and a Supervisor. The amount allotted for the Alwaye Sub-Division is not sufficient to engage all the above said officers.

The northern taluk of Kunnatnad is an agricultural centre. The large local products have to be carried to the nearest market for their sale. There are no sufficient means of communication for transport. It is regrettable to find that Government are not paying as much attention to this question as it deserves. In these days of economic depression, not to have sufficient means of communication for at least carrying the raw products to the available market is also very hard.

I request that these grievances should engage the serious attention of the Government.

Chairman : In regard to the point of order raised by Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar I can say that he has no liberty as a member of the House to claim more privileges than a private gentleman in the matter of addressing the heads of departments on departmental matters The Government and the departmental heads will, as far as possible, try to reply and show courtesy to them, but it is no part of the right or privilege of a member as a member of this House to hold correspondence with any heads of departments.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. M. Govindan : Sir, I thought Mr. Narayana Aiyar was not raising any point of order. Of course I do not question the ruling of the Chair, but I share with him the same complaint that we do not know to whom to address the grievances as citizens ; and not as members of this House ; as citizens to whom to look for a new road or a new bridge, I share the same grievance, Sir, I should like to be told when the Chief Engineer would be replying and who is the person to whom we may look for getting our grievances redressed in the matter, as there is a long army of officers in this department and as such we do not know whom to approach. There was a Road Board and I do not exactly know the functions of the Road Board or even whether it exists now. But there is necessity for opening new roads. It is not possible for arranging them in the order of urgency unless there is some constituted authority for the whole of Travancore ; for each one of us will be naturally thinking more of his own locality and trying to get constructed roads and bridges near his house.

With regard to the item of supply of drinking water I have something to bring to the attention of the Chief Engineer. For the supply of drinking water in the coastal regions of Karunagapalli and Kartikapalli there is a provision of one thousand and four hundred rupees in the budget.

Mr. A. N. Visvanatha Pillai: ഇതു പോരായ്മയുള്ളതുകൊണ്ടു കഴിഞ്ഞകൊല്ലവും ഈ ബഡ്ജറിൽ കൊള്ളിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടായിരുന്നല്ലോ?

Mr. M. Govindan : I believe there was a previous provision also made. But I don't think anything substantial has been done in the direction. It is a great necessity. My point in respect of it is not exactly the urgency of doing it. My point is that the problem is not confined to Kartikapalli and Karunagapalli alone. There are other taluks in Travancore which equally require good drinking water. The necessity is common to the strip of land lying midway between the back waters and the sea from Katinamkulam to North Parur. The problem of the supply of good water exists in all those areas. It so happens that some of us are more articulate than others. The people of Kartikapalli and Karunagapalli brought their demand to the notice of the Government. The fact is that it is a common complaint in the coastal regions of Travancore. When the matter is taken up it will be found that the necessity exists not only in South Travancore or Middle Travancore but also in North Travancore up to Parur.

Mr. K. K. Thomas : Sir, from the discussions that have been going on here I am surprised to find that very little credit has been given to the Public Works Department.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Mr. K. K. Thomas.]

Travancore has been priding herself in the possession of a department which was an envy to the outside world. Men who travel in British India or in other countries of the world will find, as soon as they enter the borders of Travancore, that our roads are infinitely better constructed and maintained. In fact it is the pride of Travancore to have a well maintained system of roads and the credit of it goes to the P. W. Department.

There is an incessant cry for more and more roads from several places. We have about 986 miles of metalled roads and about 2,929 miles of unmetalled roads and another 1,108 miles of village roads. I do not know if our exchequer will be able to maintain these roads in good repair even if we give the whole allotment of the department for maintenances alone. Such being the case, the department has to find out some means of making more roads and to maintain them in proper condition. It is not possible for each and every pakuthy to get roads. There is a cry for more roads in every village. Some amount has to be set apart for such new works and as in the case of the Education Department our people should come forward with a mood to surrender lands and maintain them. Some grants will have to be given of course. Unless some such method is found out it may not be possible to cut roads and keep them in good condition, for there is want of funds to maintain even the existing roads. With regard to communication in the western portion of the country any body who has any knowledge of Travancore would be convinced that unless a large amount of money is spent it is not possible to open new roads. A much higher proportion has to be set apart for the maintenance of roads in these places. In these regions owing to the looseness of sand and erosion of saltish water, culverts constructed on the roads get loosened. Further, floods also bring in a lot of trouble and difficulty and inconvenience to the people. Anyhow an investigation may be made before we launch upon any large number of roads on the western portion of the country. Much has to be done by way of supplying good drinking water to the ryots especially on the coastal regions where good water cannot be got for drinking purposes, as in Quilon and Alleppey. These should be done as early as possible.

Mr. G. B. E. Truscott: Sir, I wish to speak regarding the motion of Mr. John Kattakayam for omitting the whole amount demanded under the Public Works. Mr. John Kattakayam makes a sweeping statement that the work in the department is in a very bad condition, and that the department is flooded with many highly paid officers and work is being carried out in a most unsatisfactory

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

manner. Sir, criticism is easy, especially destructive criticism ; but constructive criticism is very difficult. Mr. Nilakanta Pillai made some remarks regarding the expenditure and also remarked that he knows more than the Chief Engineer. There are many more like him; but in one point he does not know as much as the Chief Engineer, for he refers to the fact that only Rs. 98,335 is provided in the budget for new works. If you look at Appendix B of the budget you will find that Rs. 1,38,600 plus Rs. 2,63,835 plus Rs. 67,915 is provided for works in progress. That is new work, as on account of various reasons the works under this head could not be completed during 1109 and therefore they are being continued 1110.

Then we have for new works Rs. 70,410 and Rs. 1,16,790 and Rs. 2,67,500 for protective irrigation and Rs. 16,500 for productive irrigation and if you turn over to Appendix D you will find a sum of Rs. 3,37,000 for works under the Road Development Fund. This is all in addition to Mr. Nilakanta Pillai's Rs. 98,335.

Mr. K. P. Nilakanta Pillai: May I know whether the amount allotted for the maintenance of the existing roads can be included as the amount allotted for new works?

Mr. G. B. E. Truscott : The amount allotted for maintenance of existing roads is Rs. 9,09,823 plus Rs. 16,939 for traces and 11,263 for bridges.

Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai : Apart from this , may I know whether Mr. K. P. Nilakanta Pillai was right when he stated that for the coming year a sum of 98,000 rupees and odd is allotted for opening new roads ?

Mr. G. B. E. Truscott : Yes.

Mr. K. P. Nilakanta Pillai : May I know, Sir, whether the Chief Engineer can intellectually think that a difference is possible between opening of new roads and maintaining existing roads?

Mr. G. B. E. Truscott : I must refer him to works in progress, Sir. I say these must be included, as works are continued from one year to the next due to want of time and funds to finish them, and therefore they are new works.

Mr. N. K. Padmanabha Pillai spoke of the headquarters of the Irrigation Division being at Quilon. The Irrigation Department is a new one and Quilon is considered the best place for its headquarters. If it is found more convenient later to remove the headquarters elsewhere, I am sure that Government will have no objection in doing so. Mr. Paramesvaran Pillai spoke of the bridge at Neendakara being constructed by a firm of specialists. This

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Mr. G. B. E. Truscott.]

department is competent and does design the bridges required, but if a firm of specialists submit a favourable alternative tender for a type of bridge in which they are specialists, that tender is considered, and if more favourable, the work is given to them.

Mr. K. P. Nilakanta Pillai: In view of the fact that the member was not able to say anything as a matter of constructive policy may I ask a question whether if roads once started are found after 6 years not completed and the funds are wasted, that will be the criticism and questioning about the definite policy of the department? What has the member to say?

Mr. G. B. E. Truscott: When framing the budget of this department for the coming year I took the whole of the incomplete works to see if it was possible to include them in the amount allotted for the P. W D. It was not possible that the whole amount could be so included, but these will be included in the next budget, as it is policy of the department to complete, as far as possible, all works, lying unfinished.

Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai: May I know from the member whether all the moneys sanctioned last time have been spent on road works or any surrender has been made by his department?

Mr. G. B. E. Truscott: No surrender has been made.

Mr. S. Piraviperumal Pillai: May I know from the member whether any amount lapsed during 1108 out of the amounts sanctioned for the year 1108?

Mr. G. B. E. Truscott: I do not know; I was not here in 1108.

Mr. K. P. Nilakanta Pillai: May I know, Sir, further whether so far as the present Chief Engineer is concerned he expects criticism of the department?

Mr. G. B. E. Truscott: As every department is criticised the Chief Engineer does not expect the P. W. D. to be left out.

Coming to the specialist business, Mr. Paramesvaran Pillai spoke about the Alleppey Pier.

Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai: I did not speak about the Alleppey Pier. I spoke only about the sand accretion in the Alleppey Pier.

Mr. G. B. E. Truscott: Mr. Paramesvaran Pillai spoke about Messrs. Braithewaite & Co. They are specialists in the supplying of the special materials required for Alleppey Pier work and there is no firm in Travancore who can make the necessary materials

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Regarding tenders for works, I would say that before we award any contract we advertise in the papers and through the gazettes and give the work to the most favourable tenderer.

Mr. Kattiyattu Sivarama Panickar: May I know from the Chief Engineer whether he has got anything to say as regards constructive criticism raised by my honourable friend Mr. John Kattakayam about raising the road at its bend to avoid accidents?

Mr. G. B. E. Truscott: That will be considered.

Regarding the supply of drinking water, this is engaging the attention of this department, and with the Public Health Department we are making a five-year programme for sinking of wells. For Nagercoil, a detailed investigation has been made and a report has already been submitted to Government. Water-supply to Alleppey and Shertallai is also being investigated.

One member referred to tube wells in coastal areas. I would say that a tube well had been sunk to a depth of 107 ft. but water there was found brackish. We are making other borings to try to obtain potable water.

Mr. Komilezhathu Sankaran: May I know from the Chief Engineer whether his department has spent any amount from the allotment for the 113 miles of new roads in Karunagapalli?

Mr. G. B. E. Truscott: A portion might have been spent. Mr. Piraviperumal Pillai spoke about the Main Southern Road. The Main Southern Road is one of the two most important roads in the whole of India as regards the intensity of traffic.

Mr. S. Piraviperumal Pillai: Is it not the first road that pay the greatest amount of tolls in the whole of India?

Mr. G. B. E. Truscott: I cannot say that. The cost of maintenance of that road is extremely high. I have travelled along that road and cannot agree that it is in the bad condition as referred to by the member but can only think that if motor buses break down on that road, it is due to the senile condition of the vehicle, rather than the condition of the road.

Mr. Komilezhathu Sankaran: May I know from the member whether the policy of the department is for opening up of new roads from east to west or from north to south?

Mr. G. B. E. Truscott: The policy of the department is to open new roads wherever they are found necessary and according to the provision of funds.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Mr. G. B. E. Truscott.]

One member spoke regarding maistries being made permanent in the department. This has been engaging the attention of Government for some time past. Maistries are appointed for a particular work and their pay is charged directly against the work. When that work is completed, as far as possible they are drafted elsewhere for similar work ; but it is not possible to add a thousand men or so to the permanent staff as the number of maistries required depend on the amount of work. Government are however considering a scheme of gratuities for the maistries who are more or less continuously employed.

Mr. S. Piraviperumal Pillai: May I know from the member how many months after the payment of the last bill the newly constructed building at the Oolampara Hospital collapsed?

Mr. G. B. E. Truscott: I do not know.

Mr. K. P. Nilakanta Pillai: May I know whether the Chief Engineer would be kind enough to explain what are constructive and what are destructive works in the department?

Chairman: I don't think the Chief Engineer spoke in any insinuating language to the honourable member. He was only having a bit of general philosophy.

Mr. G. B. E. Truscott: Mr. Narayana Aiyar spoke about Parur-Kuriapalli Road, Ankamali-Kalady Road and other roads in the vicinity. I have inspected these roads. Estimates for the improvements of some of them have been prepared, but, are pending sanction and execution for want of funds. All the same, maintenance works are being carried out to keep them fit for traffic. New roads are wanted all over the State but they can only be provided when the finances of the State are such as to allow funds to be allotted for them.

Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai: Is there any proposal to increase the number of tolls?

Mr. G. B. E. Truscott: It is proposed to open two fresh toll gates. Regarding the bridging of the Alwaye river, that has been engaging the attention of Government for a long time. Two bridges are needed and it means an expenditure of about 7 lakhs of rupees. I am very sorry to hear that Mr. Narayana Aiyar received no reply from me to his letter. I send replies to every letter that is sent to me. I do not remember having seen his letter and hence I could not reply.

Now about the Road Board. The Road Board was constituted to give advice to Government in the matter of opening, improving and maintaining roads, bridges and waterways in the State. As a

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

result of the deliberations of the board a large number of works were recommended but the board were not able to fix their priority and this was left to the department to do.

Mr. Komilezhathu Sankaran: May I know from the Chief Engineer how long it will take to finish the construction of the Kayancolam bridge?

Mr. G. B. E. Truscott: It should be finished in the course of the coming year.

Mr. Komilezhathu Sankaran: Has the construction of the bridge already begun?

Mr. G. B. E. Truscott: No. You have'nt yet passed the budget.

Then regarding the staff. I do not think the members quite realise the amount of work that the staff does. It is not an idle staff that lounges on easy chairs, as suggested by one member. The percentage of establishment charges for 1110 is estimated to be 16·72. In Madras the percentage is 23. In Hyderabad it is 30.

Mr. K. P. Nilakanta Pillai: May I know what is the allotment in Madras and Hyderabad?

Mr. G. B. E. Truscott: I do not know.

Mr. S. Piraviperumal Pillai: May I know from the member whether in those places the staff sit on easy chairs and work?

Mr. G. B. E. Truscott: I don't know. But I know that this P. W. D. staff sit in easy chairs only in their Bungalows.

Mr. Kattiyattu Sivarama Panickar: Is there separate allotment in each taluk?

Mr. G. B. E. Truscott: No. You find in South Travancore the roads are more numerous than in North Travancore; so an allotment on taluk war basis will not be equitable.

Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai: May I know from the member whether a reduction in the number of P. W. D. divisions in the State would curtail the expenditure?

Mr. G. B. E. Truscott: I should say it is impossible to reduce the number of divisions.

Mr. K. P. Nilakanta Pillai: Has the Chief Engineer recommended for more funds for the coming year?

Mr. G. B. E. Truscott: It is a matter between the Government and myself.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. J. John Kattakayam: എന്റെ ഉപക്ഷേപത്തിൽ പറഞ്ഞിട്ടുള്ള പ്രസ്താവനകളെപ്പറ്റി ചീഫ് എൻജിനീയർ വേണ്ടവണ്ണം ആലോചിച്ച പരിഹാരമുണ്ടാക്കുമെന്നുള്ള വിശ്വാസത്തോടുകൂടി ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപം ഞാൻ പിൻവലിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു.

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Chairman: I take it that Demand II—Public Works Department, for an allotment of Rs. 36,01,726 moved by the Chief Engineer is granted.

Mr. K. P. Nilakanta Pillai: Sir, I rise to a point of order. The motion that has been withdrawn is an amendment motion and the motion of Mr. Truscott is now before the House. So, I propose to oppose the demand. It has been brought to the notice of the Government from time to time ... ...

Chairman: You have raised a point of order and you cannot make a second speech on the motion.

Mr. S. Piraviperumal Pillai: May I know whether it was in order because the motion now before the House is the demand by Mr. Truscott?

Chairman: I made it clear that there is only a slight technical difference between speaking for the original demand and also speaking against the second motion.

Mr. K. P. Nilakanta Pillai: May I request the Law Member to give his opinion on this point of order ?

Mr. Kayalam Paramesvaran Pillai: The Chair has declared its ruling.

Mr. K. P. Nilakanta Pillai: May I know whether the same point has been raised and a ruling has been made by Mr. Austin ? May I understand that the Chair is not amenable to the informative opinion from the Law Member ?

Chairman: The member is not in order. I put this Demand to vote.

Mr. K. P. Nilakanta Pillai: I demand a poll.

The motion was put to vote and the House divided as follows:

AYES—25.

1 Mr. S. Adam Sait
2 „ R. Dhanukoti Pillai
3 „ M. Govindan
4 „ Jacob Hassan Sait
5 „ J. John Kattakayam
6 „ C. M. Joseph
7 Mr. K. N. Kesavan Namputiripad
8 „ A. Kumara Pillai
9 Rao Sahib Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai
10 Mr. L. A. Lampard

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

11	Mr. P. Madhavan Pillai	18	Mr. K. Rama Varma Raja
12	,, H. O. L. Marikar	19	,, K. Sankaralingam Pillai
13	,, R. Nilakanta Pillai	20	,, Komilezhathu Sankaran
14	,, K. P. Padmanabha Menon	21	,, James Simpson
15	,, N. K. Padmanabha Pillai	22	,, Kattiyattu Sivarama Panickar
16	,, K. Paramesvaran Pillai	23	,, K. K. Thomas
17	,, Kayalam Paramesvaran Pillai	24	,, A. N. Visvanatha Pillai
		25	,, G. B. E. Truscott

NOES—7.

1	Mr. V. S. Arumukham Pillai	5	Mr. N. K. Padmanabha Pillai
2	,, K. Madhavan Pillai	6	,, M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai
3	,, M. N. Narayana Menon	7	,, S. Piraviperumal Pillai
4	,, K. P. Nilakanta Pillai		

NEUTRALS—2.

1 Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar 2 Mr. K. Padmanabha Panickar

The Demand was declared carried.

DEMAND No. III.

ELECTRICAL DEPARTMENT.

Mr. K. P. Padmanbha Menon: I rise to move for a grant of Rs. 24,87,608 for Electrical Department under Public Works.

Mr. J. John Kattakayam: ഈ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിലുള്ള ഭരണവൈകല്യങ്ങളെ ഈ സഭയുടെ മുമ്പാകെ കൊണ്ടുവരുന്നതിനാണു ഞാൻ ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപം അവതരിപ്പിക്കുന്നതു്. ഏലക്ട്രിക് എൻജിനീയരുടെ ആഫീസ് അടുത്ത ആണ്ടാരംഭത്തോടുകൂടി പള്ളിവാസലിലേക്കു മാറുന്നതുകൊണ്ടു് അവിടെ റസിഡൻറ് എൻജിനീയർ എന്ന അഭിധാനത്തിൽ കുറെനാളായി ഭീമമായ ശമ്പളവുംകൊടുത്തു ഒരു ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥനേയും സ്റ്റാഫിനേയും വച്ചിട്ടുള്ളതു കുറയ്ക്കുവാൻ ഇതു തക്കതായ ഒരവസരമാണു്. പ്രതിവർഷം ആ ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥനുവേണ്ടി മുപ്പതിനായിരം രൂപയാണു പോകുന്നതു്. ഏലക്ട്രിക്കൽ എൻജിനീയരാകട്ടെ, ഈ കാര്യത്തിൽ വിദഗ്ധനായിട്ടുള്ള ആളാണു്. പൈക്കാരമുതലായ സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ ഇരുന്ന ചിരപരിചയം സിദ്ധിച്ചിട്ടും ഉണ്ടു്. അവിടത്തെ ടണൽ പണിയുടെ ആരംഭദശയിൽ അന്നത്തെ ദിവാൻജിയായിരുന്ന മി. ആസ്റ്ററിൻെറ അദ്ധ്യക്ഷതയിൽ കൂടിയ യോഗത്തിൽവച്ചു ടണലിൻെറ

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly